

Application No. 09/600,195
Paper Dated November 20, 2003
Reply to telephone interview with Examiner on October 23, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 2204-001287

REMARKS

Claims 8-13 are currently pending in the application. Claims 10-11 are canceled. Claims 8 and 12 are amended. Applicants believe that all pending claims 8-9 and 12-13 are now in condition for allowance.

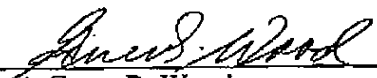
Independent claim 8 and dependent claim 12 have been amended to recite that the inorganic body of the present invention contains a samarium (Sm) rare earth metal ion. In a telephone interview with Examiner Vincent, conducted on October 23, 2003, Examiner Vincent indicated that he would be inclined to allow the present invention if (1) they were limited to Sm-containing glass; (2) if the prior art did not contain such a limitation, and/or if such a limitation would not be obvious to one skilled in the art; and (3) if the specification suggested that the Sm-containing glass was one of the preferred embodiments. Examiner Vincent stated that he would review the specification, claims, and the prior art, and would telephone the undersigned with his comments shortly. The undersigned sent Examiner Vincent the proposed amended claim 8 containing the Sm rare metal ion recitation by facsimile after speaking with Examiner Vincent. Examiner Vincent telephoned the undersigned two days later and left a telephonic message stating that claim 8, as now amended, would be allowable.

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Accordingly, it is believed that pending claims 8-9 and 12-13 are now in
condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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